



BOROUGH OF DAVENTRY

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE



MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE

YEAR 1957.

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To His Worship The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of  
Daventry.

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health, for 1957, incorporating that of the Public Health Inspector. I took up duties on April 23rd 1957 and present this report on behalf of my predecessor Dr. H.A.H. Summers and myself.

The population again shows an increase from 4,580 in mid-year 1956 to 4,870 in mid-year 1957. This is again mainly due to industrial expansion.

The Birth Rate is approximately the same showing a decrease of 3 on last year.

There were 70 deaths during the year giving a crude Death Rate of 14.37 (11.003 standardised Rate). The causes of death were similar to those of last year in that almost half the deaths were due to disease of the heart and circulation, while cancer was responsible for approximately a sixth of the total deaths.

The number of infectious disease notifications increased from 14 to 163, largely due to the biennial incidence of Measles and an increase in Whooping cough notifications. The disease was mild in both instances. The Nation-wide epidemic of Asian influenza caused some concern in the Autumn and early winter months. The disease was widespread in the town, but was fortunately mild. Three deaths are, however, recorded from influenza.

New Council Houses built totalled 54 and was about half the number constructed during the previous year. In addition a new shop was built on the Housing Estate. Very satisfactory progress was maintained with slum clearance and 13 families were re-housed from condemned properties.

It is gratifying to be able to report that approval was granted for the building of a new sewage treatment works to serve the town and construction was in progress at the end of the year.

In conclusion, thanks are due to the Public Health Inspector, and all who contributed in any way towards the compilation of this report, to the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee for help and encouragement, and to the County Medical Officer of Health for details of preventive measures against infectious diseases.

JOAN M. ST. V. DAWKINS,  
Medical Officer of Health.

July 1958.



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B O R O U G H     O F     D A V E N T R Y

Members of the Public Health Committee:

Councillor T.R. Webb (Chairman)

Aldermen D.C. Arnall, L.B. Butcher and G. Williams

Councillors W.A. Clements, G.R. Dodson, L.E. Whitmee,  
G.J. Butlin

Public Health Officers of the Borough of Daventry:

Joan M. St. V. Dawkins, M.B.B.S., D.P.H., D.C.H.,  
Medical Officer of Health

Also holds the appointments of

Medical Officer of Health, Daventry Rural District Council,

Medical Officer of Health, Brixworth Rural District Council,

Assistant County Medical Officer of Health

and

County School Medical Officer.

G.N. Schofield, R.S.I.J.B., M.A.P.H.I.,  
Public Health Inspector.

Certified Inspector of Meat and Foods,  
Shops Act Inspector,  
Petroleum Officer.





# SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS 1957

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	3,633
Population	...	...	...	4,870
Number of separate dwellings occupied			...	1,574
Rateable Value 1957 (April)		...	...	£65.881
Product of a Penny Rate	...	...	...	£275.5.3d.

## LIVE BIRTHS: (Rate per 1000 estimated population)

	Male	Female	Total	Rate	Rate E & W
Legitimate	46	36	82		
Illegitimate	1	-	1		
	47	36	83	17.04	16.1

## STILL BIRTHS: (Rate per 1000 live and still births)

Nil Nil 22.4

DEATHS: (All causes) 44 26 70 14.37 11.5

## DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES: (Maternal Mortality)

Nil

## INFANT MORTALITY: (Deaths under 1 year per 1000 live births)

Legitimate	2	-	2		
Illegitimate	-	-	-		
	2	-	2	24.09	23.0

## NEONATAL MORTALITY: (Deaths under 4 weeks per 1000 Live births)

Nil

## DEATHS FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Nil





MORTALITY TABLE 1957

Cause of Death				Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	-	1	1
Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	-	-	-
Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	-	-	-
Diphtheria	...	...	...	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	-	-	-
Measles	...	...	...	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	1	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	2	-	2
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	2	-	2
Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	-	2	2
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	-	-	-
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	3	3	6
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	-	-	-
Diabetes	...	...	...	-	-	-
Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	2	3	5
Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	4	5	9
Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	1	-	1
Other heart disease	...	...	...	13	4	17
Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	4	1	5
Influenza	...	...	...	1	2	3
Pneumonia	...	...	...	3	1	4
Bronchitis	...	...	...	2	1	3
Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	-	-	-
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	-	-	-
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	-	-	-
Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	-	-	-
Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	1	-	1
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	-	-	-
Congenital Malformations	...	...	...	-	-	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	3	1	4
Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	-	-	-
All other accidents	...	...	...	2	2	4
Suicide	...	...	...	-	-	-
Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	-	-	-
TOTALS				44	26	70



SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS OVER PREVIOUS 5 YEARS

Year	Estimated Population	Births		Deaths			
		No.	Crude Rate	Under 1 year		All ages	
				No.	Rate	No.	Crude Rate
1952	4100	74	18.04	3	40.54	184	44.8
1953	4164	51	12.24	2	39.21	204	48.9
1954	4190	63	15.03	1	15.87	43	10.26
1955	4500	79	17.71	Nil	Nil	59	13.11
1956	4580	86	18.77	3	34.88	67	14.63
1957	4870	83	17.04	2	24.09	70	14.37



## SECTION A

### Natural and Social Conditions

#### AREA

The acreage of the Town is 3,633 and the population approximately 5,000.

Daventry is one of the Ancient Boroughs and received its first charter from Queen Elizabeth I in 1576. For many years Daventry was a prosperous market town, with its wide rural boundaries and its central, although rather cramped, urban area. It was a busy coaching centre, and the latter provided its main industry, that of whip making. With the disappearance of the coach, employment was provided by the boot and shoe industry and later by addition of the B.B.C. Transmitting Station at Borough Hill.

The character of the town is now changing. Since 1953/54 when a large tapered roller bearing factory of British Timken was established to the North of the town, there has been steady increase of population. The old town still remains, but what is virtually a new town with its well spaced modern dwellings, is arising to the North and South. Further industrial expansion and development is expected, and a new era of progress and prosperity is anticipated for the town.

Houses and factories however, do not make a community and the necessity for the provision of cultural, sport and other centres must not be forgotten in this overall programme.

#### POPULATION

The estimated mid-year population in 1957, calculated by the Registrar General, was 4,870 representing an increase of 290 on the 1956 figure. Natural increase, excess of births over deaths, was calculated to be 13, the difference being due mainly to movement into the town in connection with industrial expansion.

#### DEATHS

70 deaths compared with 67 for the previous year, gave a rate of 14.37 compared with 14.63 for 1956.

32 cases died as a result of heart or diseases of the circulatory system, while 13 died from cancer. One death only is recorded from respiratory tuberculosis, while four deaths occurred as a result of accidents.

#### BIRTHS

Live births numbered 83 giving a rate of 17.04 per thousand live births, which was slightly lower than that for 1956.







#### STILLBIRTHS

No stillbirths were recorded during the year.

#### ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS

One illegitimate birth took place during the year, compared with two in 1956.

#### MATERNAL MORTALITY

No maternal deaths were recorded during the year.

#### INFANT MORTALITY

Two deaths under the age of 1 year occurred during 1957.



## SECTION B

### General Provisions of Health Service

#### LABORATORY SERVICE

The Emergency Public Health Laboratory Service is available for work in connection with the diagnosis and control of Infectious Diseases. It is situated adjacent to Northampton General Hospital.

#### AMBULANCE SERVICE

General medical and surgical cases are moved by units of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, acting as agents for the County Council, as also are infectious disease cases.

#### TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS

An Infant Welfare Clinic is held in the Abbey Buildings on the third Friday of each month. A monthly Antenatal Clinic is also conducted.

There is still no permanent Dental Clinic in the town but the County Council Mobile Dental Unit pays periodic visits.

#### TUBERCULOSIS

The Tuberculosis After-Care Committee continued to serve both the Borough and the surrounding Rural District.

Commencing in August 1955 a chest clinic service was instituted at fortnightly intervals in the Danetre Hospital, and continues to be of great service to local patients.

#### NURSING AT HOME

The County Council provides Health Visitors and District Nurses to visit homes as and when necessary. Home Helps may also be obtained when required by application to the same Authority.

#### HOSPITAL SERVICES

All infectious disease cases, excepting only Tuberculosis sufferers, can obtain suitable treatment at Harborough Road Isolation Hospital, Northampton, while general medical and surgical cases receive treatment at Danetre Hospital, Northampton General Hospital or Hospital of St. Cross, Rugby.



## OLD PEOPLE

### Darby & Joan Club

This Club which has been run voluntarily by the W.V.S. for 9 years, has a membership of over 50. Meetings are held every Friday afternoon which are very well attended, and very popular. During the year various outings have been arranged to places of interest, and other clubs. A garden party is also held annually.

Thanks are expressed to Ladies of this Organisation who by their service do so much to help the old people.





## SECTION C

### Sanitary Circumstances of the District

#### WATER SUPPLY

The town's water supply under the control of the Mid-Northamptonshire Water Board was both adequate and wholesome throughout the year. It is estimated that the consumption was in the region of 200,000 gallons daily, hence the need for the new additional storage reservoir constructed and brought into operation at Borough Hill. This increased the existing storage capacity from 350,000 gallons to 1½ million gallons.

A satisfactory water supply is an absolute necessity and although it is often taken for granted that by virtue of turning on a tap such supply will be available. It is, nevertheless, a far cry from the years, not so long ago, when such water would only be turned on at the mains for several hours daily. Just as this supply outdated the pump as a means of providing water, it was improved to that of a constant supply and came from bore holes at Monksmoor and Dodford. Another leaf was turned during 1957 and Monksmoor source was discontinued in December of that year, with the same fate to befall that of Dodford a few months later. The present new water supply now comes from Pitsford reservoir some 12 miles distant and is linked with a regional scheme giving supplies to some 195,000 people. This water has a total hardness of 120 parts per million which compares with figures of 350 and 420 parts per million respectively for water originally supplied from Monksmoor and Dodford.

It is certain that the progress made to this end in our locality is a considerable achievement in the field of public health.

#### DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

Visits were made to premises where cases of infectious disease occurred and suitable means of disinfection were carried out as necessary. Advice was given to householders concerning steps to be taken to help prevent the spread of infection to contacts.

In only one instance was it necessary to treat premises infested with vermin, although a fairly large number of households had trouble with ants, earwigs and flies and these were dealt with by spraying methods.



## SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

In the early part of the year the long awaited sanction to proceed with the building of a new sewage treatment works was granted by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. Plans for the work had already been prepared by the Council's Consulting Engineers and in due course a tender was accepted in the sum of £69,000.

The actual work started and by the end of the year the site of the old sewage works was being transformed as new settlement tanks were almost ready to take over from the old ones. The replacement in stages of the various tanks, lagoons and filters was to be effected so as to continue treatment of the actual sewage from the town and this in itself called for a considerable amount of planning.

It may be that some operational difficulties will be encountered when the new works are first completed, depending on the type of sewage undergoing treatment, as this varies from one town to another. It would be prudent during the first six months operating to have sewage samples taken weekly, and this could give way to normal periodic sampling once the new works were tested and operating satisfactorily.

## RODENT CONTROL

Action taken to deal with rodent control was similar to that of the previous year and carried out under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Treatments were undertaken covering the Refuse tips, public sewers, business premises and private dwelling houses. The average number of complaints received was on the same level as that for the past five years. In most cases any trouble arising from rats or mice on domestic premises was reported at an early date and effectively dealt with before there was any damage to property or danger to health.

The sewers in the older part of the town became only very slightly infested with rodents and new lengths of sewer constructed since the war were found completely free of infestation. The refuse tips were treated continually during the year with very favourable results.

Altogether 4 business premises were treated by arrangement and the cost of the work recovered from the occupiers; no charge being made for treatment at domestic premises.





Details of treatment of rat infestations are set out below:-

	<u>1956</u>	<u>1957</u>
Dwellinghouses	47	54
Business Premises	1	4
Local Authority	8	5
Agricultural	-	1

#### REFUSE COLLECTION

Under the present system refuse is removed at weekly intervals and by the frequency of such collections there is no inconvenience or nuisance which was apparent less than 10 years ago when refuse remained at premises for fortnightly periods between times of removal.

By agreement with the owner an area of land to the South of the Borough and situated along the main A45 road was used for tipping refuse. Despite the fact that there were premises on adjacent land on either side, no complaint was made and this was due in no small measure to steps taken to cover each day's refuse with a good covering of soil. Such a result justified the expense of having a man working regularly in the tip site. By the end of the year this temporary tip was nearing completion and the refuse must then be diverted to the Council's own tip situated outside the Borough and along the Daventry - Weedon Road. As this main tip has a life of up to 2 years there remains a problem of obtaining an alternative tipping site as early as possible, especially as the town is expanding.

The Health Committee authorised 7 dustbins to be supplied to dwelling houses and the appropriate individual charge to be made in each case.

In the  $3\frac{1}{2}$  years period while the Municipal Dustbin Scheme has been in operation a total of 52 bins have been supplied.

#### MOVABLE DWELLINGS

The Council were only concerned with applications to station individual caravans within the Borough and, although such dwellings have very restricted accommodation for other than temporary occupation, their use does continue in most cases as a result of the housing shortage which still exists.

Three licences were granted permitting caravans to be occupied and periodic inspections were made to ensure that the general living conditions were satisfactory. Two applications were refused on health grounds.





NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948. SECTION 47

No formal action under this Act was necessary during the year.

PETROLEUM REGULATIONS ACTS 1928 and 1936

20 Licences were granted to the occupiers of premises to store Petroleum Spirit in accordance with the provisions of the Petroleum Acts and Regulations.



## SECTION D

### HOUSING

1957 was perhaps a year which on reflection could perhaps best be described as being one of consolidation, in which good progress was maintained with house building despite difficulties brought about by increased rates of interest on capital loaned for this purpose.

During the early part of the year 32 three bedroomed houses were completed and occupied by families coming into the town under the Industrial Expansion Scheme. This is a comparatively small number compared with 110 houses built for this purpose during 1956, but towards the end of the year plans were being laid to construct a further 100 dwellings to house families coming from overspill areas to work at the new factory of Messrs. British Timken Ltd. Regarding houses for local needs the Council built a total of 20 houses of which 10 were for Slum Clearance. It will be recalled that in 1955 the Council formulated a programme to re-house at the rate of 10 families per year from condemned properties.

The first new shop to be built on the Housing Estate was completed and with the bungalows built either side, contrives an excellent appearance, parallel with the Council's intention that the new part of the town shall also have some claim on focus.

Private building began to catch up with that of the Town Council for the first time since the war. The apparent reluctance of local builders to develop sites of adequate size was soon proved by the fact that outside firms were actively engaged in building a considerable number of houses. In all 40 private houses were completed with another 48 under construction, whilst during the 5 years prior to 1957 the total built was only 44.

The increase in population of 290 persons is no doubt a record and as most of these people were coming into the town under the Industrial Expansion Scheme it follows that a good deal of extra work was necessary by the Housing Committee and in turn its Officers in dealing with this influx of families.

Housing families from condemned properties was very satisfactory and altogether 13 families were moved by the Council. In some of these cases there were special circumstances due either to age, health or family income. Careful consideration was given to such factors by the Housing Committee when dealing with these moves.

Altogether 6 houses were demolished and a further 5 Demolition Orders made during the period. At the end of the year there were 50 condemned houses standing of which number 15 were still being occupied.





Only one application was received for an improvement grant and this was approved. It is disappointing that the rate of application continues to be so slow, in fact, only 21 grants have been made during the past 8 years and 95 per cent of these have been sanctioned to owner occupiers of houses.

Perhaps the reason for this is due to the fact that Daventry, being an old town, it has a considerable number of houses well over 100 years old in the central area. These houses are often on cramped sites and carry the familiar marks of age. This type of house is usually badly designed, fronting directly onto the road and with a small back yard common to adjoining houses. These houses are slightly above the category of those being condemned but it follows that their life is limited due to such inherent defects. It is plain to see why this type of property has not been brought up to the modern accepted standard; in fact the expense involved would not be justified. There is, nevertheless, a number of properties which have been built within the last century and the financial help given by way of improvement grants can assist in transforming these into good modern homes.

It would seem that the pattern of Council house building since the war has been mainly concerned with accommodating families and young married couples. These classes have enjoyed some degree of priority over cases where people have been in condemned properties and also over the needs of aged persons. Now that the Slum Clearance programme is progressing so well there still remains the problem of accommodation for aged persons. It is true that 11 bungalows have been built and most of the 26 downstairs flats are now occupied by this class of tenant, but there are real grounds why permanent houses perhaps in the form of one or two bedroom bungalows should be built wherever possible on sites within the town to take the place of these flats. This would do a lot to alleviate the problem and also allow conversion of the existing flats back into 3 bedroom houses as originally intended.

#### HOUSING STATISTICS

##### I Inspection of dwellinghouses during the year:-

1	(a) Number of dwellinghouses inspected for Public Health or Housing Act defects	...	321
	(b) Number of Inspection made	...	752
2	Number of houses unfit for human habitation and incapable of repair at reasonable expense still to be dealt with (figure at 31st December 1957)	...	60
3	Number of Condemned houses still standing and vacant	...	35





# HOUSING STATISTICS (contd)

I	Inspection of dwellinghouses during the year contd.		
	4	Number of Condemned houses still standing and occupied ...	15
	5	Number of dwellinghouses found to be unfit but capable of repair at reasonable expense ...	49
II	<u>Remedy of defects during the year without the service of formal notice:-</u>		
		Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or Officers ...	64
III	<u>Action under Statutory powers during the year:-</u>		
	A.	Proceedings under Sec. 9,10 and 16 of the Housing Act 1936: and Sec. 9 & 16 of Housing Act, 1957:-	
	1	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	14
	2	Number of dwellinghouses rendered fit after service of formal notices:-	
		a) by owners ...	9
		b) by Local Authority in default of owners ...	-
	B.	Proceedings under Public Health Acts:	
	1	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	18
	2	Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-	
		a) by owners ...	12
		b) by Local Authority in default of owners ...	6
	C.	Proceedings under Sec. 11 & 13 of the Housing Act 1936 and Sec.16,17 & 35 Housing Act,1957:-	
	1	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ...	5



## HOUSING STATISTICS (contd)

2	Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ...	6
3	Number of dwellinghouses demolished by informal agreement with owners ...	-
4	Number of dwellinghouses closed in pursuance of undertakings not to relet at end of present tenancy accepted by Council under Section 11 ...	1

D. Proceedings under Sects. 25 & 26 of the Housing Act 1936 and Sec.42 Housing Act 1957:-

1	Number of houses dealt with ...	-
2	Number of Clearance Orders made ...	-
3	Number of houses demolished in Clearance Areas ...	-

IV. Housing Act 1957 Part IV - Overcrowding

1	(a) Number of dwellinghouses overcrowded at end of year ...	2
	(b) Number of families dwelling therein ...	3
	(c) Number of persons dwelling therein ...	15
2	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ...	3
3	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ...	5
	Number of persons concerned in such cases ...	16
4	Number of cases in which dwellinghouses became overcrowded again after Local Authority had taken steps to abate same..	Nil





## SECTION E

### Inspection and Supervision of Food and Drink

Regular inspections were made of all premises where food was prepared or stored for sale to the public. Certain improvements were effected by occupiers of food premises to meet the standard laid down by the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955. It will be recalled that this statute came into operation during the previous year and embodied additional requirements for securing a better standard of hygiene, i.e. separate locker accommodation for clothing not worn by employees during working hours; the provision of first aid materials and better washing facilities. These are only some examples of the new provisions and in most cases the occupiers of shops were able to bring existing premises up to a satisfactory standard at a fairly reasonable expense.

Food hygiene is inseparable from modern business and success depends upon having clean premises with clean people upon both sides of the counter. A measure of success has in the main been achieved with the premises as a result of the new code of cleanliness; this should stimulate a growing appreciation on the part of the public and food handlers as to the necessity of certain principles. Those persons who look upon requirements as a fussy interference are usually the ones who need to be continually prompted on matters of hygiene.

The following list sets out the principal type of traders within the Borough:-

Bakehouses	4
Butchers shops	6
Confectionery	6
Cafes	2
Grocers (General)	13
Greengrocers	4
Fried Fish shops	2
Wet fish shops	2
Licensed Milk Depots	2
Licensed Milk shops	2
Shops registered to sell Ice Cream	13

All milk delivered to domestic premises was supplied in bottles from dairies outside the district. In addition to the two main distributors which have supplied the town during recent years a new licence was granted to a retail producer to sell Tuberculin Tested milk within the Borough. Two shops are licensed for the sale of bottled milk.

Premises registered for the sale of Ice Cream were visited periodically and found to be satisfactory. There was no Ice Cream manufactured locally during the year.





During the year an Order was made under the Foods and Drugs Act 1955, by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in conjunction with Minister of Health specifying an area in which only Sterilised, Pastourised or Tuberculin Tested milk could be sold. This Specified Area covered the whole of the County, including that of the Borough.

Details of samples of food taken in the Borough of Daventry by the Staff of the Northamptonshire County Council are reproduced below:-

Milk	13
Sausages	2
Butter	1
Ice Cream	1
Mustard	1
Honey	1
Jam	1
Whisky	1
Aspirin	1
Halibut Oil Capsules	1

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All the samples were satisfactory in every way and complied with the appropriate food standard, and were free from excessive or prohibited preservatives and from metallic contamination.

Certificates were issued to traders submitting food for voluntary condemnation and in most cases consisted of tins of food which had been damaged, or the contents had not been properly sterilised on being canned. This type of unsound food was relatively small in quantity and was removed by the Health Department for disposal by burying at the refuse tip.



The following animals were slaughtered during the year at the one private slaughterhouse situate within the Borough:-

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	77	Nil	Nil	359	156	Nil
Number inspected	77	-	-	359	156	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis &amp; Cysticerci</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	1	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	18	-	-	1	2	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	23.3	-	-	0.5	1.2	-
<u>Tuberculosis only:</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1	-	-	-	4	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	1.3	-	-	-	2.5	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-





## SECTION F.

### Prevalence of, and control over, Infectious Diseases

There has been a considerable increase in the notification of infectious disease, largely due to the biennial incidence of measles. Cases were mostly mild, and no deaths occurred. There were no cases of diphtheria or poliomyelitis.

A case of food poisoning occurred in a boy who after extensive investigation was thought, but never proved, to have contracted the infection from cattle suffering from salmonella infection. This case proved fatal.

The incidence of influenza in the Autumn caused some concern. Its outbreak had originated in Asia and had considerable publicity before its arrival in the British Isles. In Daventry the disease started first in institutions with outbreaks in schools and factories and later spread to the homes. The infection was, fortunately, for the most part, mild, but in the aged and infirm could have severe effects. Three deaths were recorded. Influenza is not a notifiable disease, and the number of cases is therefore not known.

Notification of the following cases of infectious disease was received during the year ending 31st December 1957:-

Disease	Male	Female	Total	Rate per 1000 total population
Scarlet Fever	-	1	1	0.20
Whooping Cough	9	19	28	5.81
Acute Primary Pneumonia	-	2	2	0.41
Food Poisoning	1	1	2	0.41
Measles	69	59	128	20.62
TOTAL	79	82	161	

### VACCINATION

It is gratifying to note that an increased number of children have been vaccinated against smallpox making a total of 120, as compared with 66 last year. Poliomyelitis vaccination continued, and by the end of the year 181 were protected.

	Under 1	1	2-4	5-14	15 or over	Total
Primary	77	6	16	3	6	108
Re-vaccination	-	-	2	1	9	12



# IMMUNISATION

	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5 to 9	10 to 14	Total	Booster
Diphtheria Immunisation only	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	3
Combined Diphtheria Whooping Cough	76	9	7	-	2	1	-	95	11
Total Diphtheria Immunisations	77	9	8	-	2	1	-	97	14
Whooping Cough only	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	3	-

# POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

Children born in year	1957	'56	'55	'54	'53	'52	'51	'50	'49	'48	'47	Total
	-	1	1	10	15	14	21	19	28	25	47	181



Number of children who have completed a  
full Course of Diphtheria Immunisation

Age at 31.12.57 i.e. Born in	Under 1 1957	1 1956	2 1955	3 1954	4 1953	5-9 1948 1952	10-14 1943- 1947	Total Under 15
Number Immunised	37	78	82	63	44	253	261	818

TUBERCULOSIS

Age and Sex distribution of new cases and deaths 1957

Age Groups	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Other		Pulmonary		Other	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 plus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-

Cases on Register at 31st December 1957

Designation	Males		Females		TOTAL
	Pulmonary	Other	Pulmonary	Other	
Notified 1957	1	-	1	-	2
Inward Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
Removals	-	-	1	-	1
Remaining	18	3	12	1	34





## TUBERCULOSIS

The voluntary After Care Committee continued to keep in touch with local persons suffering from tuberculosis, the Committee being primarily concerned with the welfare of the patient and his family as well as that of the community as a whole in the prevention of tuberculosis. This action helps to maintain a useful link between the treatment carried out in sanatoria and the patient's home life.

There were 3 members of the Public Health Committee actually serving on this Committee and one must pay tribute to the support which has always been given by the Borough Council to this work in particular. The townsfolk have profited in many ways from the advantages which have been gained from such a close bond, not least of which has been in the form of practical help given by the Council in affording decent housing accommodation at an early date for urgent tuberculous patients. During the year 2 such families were re-housed. Although this may appear a small matter it is nevertheless, a significant example of one of the ways in which the Town Council being the heart of the society, does in fact look after the needs of its community.

There were 2 new cases of tuberculosis notified during the year. In 1956 there were 7 cases. It is gratifying to record this decline in notifications, and a cautious optimism may be expressed for the future. The great advances in detection, treatment and prevention, in the shape of mass radiography, skin testing, the use of chemotherapy and the vaccination of school children and contacts with B.C.G. have together produced a remarkable and satisfying decline in incidence and mortality of this once widespread and dreaded disease.



# SECTION G

## FACTORIES ACT, 1937

### Part I - Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health

	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sects. 1,2,3,4, & 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authority.	13	31	2	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sect. 7 is enforced.	35	56	1	-
(iii) Other premises (excluding outworkers' premises) in which Sect. 7 is enforced.	9	12	2	-
	57	99	5	Nil

### Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of Prosecutions
	Found	Remedied	Ref. to H.M. Insp.	Ref. by H.M.I.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	4	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temp. (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate vent. (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floor (S.6)	1	1	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	2	2	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (except outworkers)	-	-	-	-	-
	8	8	-	-	Nil

### PART VIII - Outworkers

Number of outworkers registered during the year ... 5





# SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S VISITS DURING THE YEAR

## Housing:

Repairs, Demolition Visits etc.	...	...	621
Overcrowding	...	...	25
Drainage, W.Cs. sinks etc.	...	...	127
Water Supply	...	...	8
Food and Drugs and ancillary provisions	...	...	156
Food - Inspection and Condemnation	...	...	16
Slaughterhouse visits	...	...	107
Shops	...	...	41
Petroleum Licensing and Supervision	...	...	32
Refuse Collection	...	...	41
Refuse Disposal	...	...	17
Verminous Premises and Infestations	...	...	32
Infectious Disease and Food Poisoning	...	...	25
Miscellaneous Visits	...	...	61
Pig keeping and other animal complaints	...	...	9
Nuisances	...	...	24
Public Conveniences	...	...	8
Theatres, Hotels and Places of Entertainment	...	...	12
Rodent Control	...	...	142
Schools	...	...	17
Temporary Dwellings	...	...	25
Interviews and Visits to Housing Applicants apart from normal Housing or Overcrowding complaints.	...	...	274
			<hr/>
			1,822
			<hr/>





